



DeSoto Independent School District

April 3, 2017

TEA Commissioner Mike Morath
Texas Education Agency
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Commissioner Morath,

The DeSoto Independent School District ("District") is following the process required by House Bill 1842 (HB 1842), enacted by the 84th Texas Legislature and codified in the Texas Education Code Chapter 12A, for the Board of Trustees to consider designating the District as a District of Innovation.

On December 12, 2016, the Board unanimously adopted a resolution for the District to initiate the process of designation as a District of Innovation as required by TEC 12A.001(c)(1). On February 13, a public hearing was conducted to consider whether to continue pursuit as required by TEC 12A.002(a). Following the hearing, a District of Innovation Committee was appointed by the Board and Superintendent to develop the Local Innovation Plan as required by TEC 12A.002(b)(2), TEC 12A.003.

The District of Innovation Committee developed the Local Innovation Plan which will complete the 30-day posting requirement on April 8, 2017, as required by TEC 12A.005(a)(1). The plan was also approved by a majority of the District of Innovation Committee members as required by TEC 12A.005(a)(3). This letter serves to fulfill requirement TEC 12A.005(a)(2), notification to the state commissioner of intention to vote on proposed plan.

The Board will vote on the Local Innovation Plan on Monday, April 10, 2017, at a public meeting conducted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. The plan must be adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Board as required by TEC 12A.005(b).

The District's Local Innovation plan proposes exemptions for the following sections of the Texas Education Code.

- **TEC Code:** §21.003 Certification Required
- **TEC Code:** §Sec. 21.102. Probationary Contracts
- **TEC Code:** §25.0811 First Day of Instruction
- **TEC Code:** §25.092 Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade
- **TEC Code:** §25.112. Class Size
- **TEC Code:** §29.151 Free Kindergarten Start Age
- **TEC Code:** §37.0012 Designation of Campus Behavior Coordinator

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David C. Harris".

Dr. David C. Harris
Superintendent, DeSoto ISD

The mission of DeSoto ISD is to prepare each student academically and socially to be
a problem solver and productive citizen for a 21st century global society.